

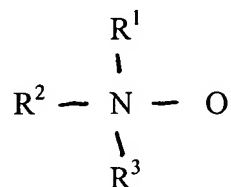
IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-13. Canceled.

14. (Currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a polyurethane foam or polyurea foam by conversion of:

- (A) compounds containing at least two isocyanate groups with
- (B) compounds containing at least two reactive hydrogen atoms,
- (C) in the presence of one or more catalysts, wherein at least one of said catalysts is an amine oxide and/or comprises at least one amine-N-oxide group,
 - wherein during the course of said conversion a reaction temperature of 50° C is exceeded to an extent that at least one residue attached to the N-atom of said amine-N-oxide group is eliminated by ~~eepe~~ Cope elimination, and
 - wherein said amine oxide has three residues each of which comprise no more than 8 carbon atoms and wherein said residues optionally comprise at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur and combinations there of, and
 - wherein said amine oxide has at least one residue having a β -hydrogen atom relative to said N-atom of said amine-N-oxide group.

15. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said amine oxide has the following structure (I)



in which R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently of each other are linear or branched hydrocarbon residues with 1 to 8 carbon atoms ~~and/or~~ or one, two or all of said R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are part of cyclic structures wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 optionally ~~and/or~~ contain heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen ~~and/or~~ or sulfur.

16. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 15, wherein at least one of said R^1 , R^2 and R^3 , independently of each other, is ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl or tertiary butyl.

17. Canceled.
18. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said amine oxide is selected from the group consisting of triethylamine-N-oxide, N-ethylmorpholine-N-oxide, N-methylmorpholine-N-oxide, diethyloctylamine-N-oxide, dimethylcyclohexylamine-N-oxide, ethyldicyclohexylamine-N-oxide, N,N,N',N'-tetra-ethyl-bisaminoethyl ether-di-N,N'-oxide, diethylcyclohexylamine-N-oxide and diethylpiperzine-N-oxide.
19. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said amine oxide is used at 0.01 to 5 % by weight based on the weight of compounds with reactive hydrogen atoms used.
20. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 14, wherein said compound containing at least two reactive hydrogen atoms comprises a polyether with at least two free hydroxyl groups.
21. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 14, further comprising employing metal salts of organic compounds as catalysts.
22. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein beside said amine-oxide no tertiary amine catalysts are used.
23. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein besides said amine-oxide no further polyurethane/polyurea catalysts are used.
24. Canceled
25. (Previously amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein during the course of said conversion a reaction temperature of 130°C is exceeded.
26. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 14, further comprising adding one or more surfactants as foam stabilizers to said conversion ~~mixture~~.
27. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 26, wherein the foam stabilizer is a silicone.
28. (Currently amended) A process for manufacturing a polyurethane ~~polymer~~ foam or a polyurea ~~polymer~~ foam comprising reacting
 - (A) compounds containing at least two isocyanate groups with
 - (B) compounds containing at least two reactive hydrogen atoms,

(C) in the presence of one or more catalysts,

wherein at least one of the catalysts is an amine-oxide and/or comprises at least one amine-N-oxide group,

wherein during the course of said ~~conversion~~ reaction a reaction temperature of 50°C is exceeded to an extent that at least one residue attached to the N-atom of the amine-N-oxide group is eliminated by ~~cope~~ Cope elimination, and

wherein said amine-oxide has at least one residue having a β -hydrogen atom relative to said N-atom of said amine-N-oxide group.

29. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 28, wherein said reaction temperature during the course of said ~~conversion~~ reaction exceeds a temperature of 130°C.
30. (Currently amended) The process according to Claim 28, wherein said amine-oxide has three ~~substituents~~ residues that each comprise no more than 8 carbon atoms and wherein said residues optionally comprise at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur and combinations thereof.
31. (Previously presented) The process according to Claim 28 further comprising employing metal salts of organic compounds as a catalyst.
32. (Previously amended) The process according to Claim 31, wherein said metal salt of organic compound comprises a tin salt of an organic compound.
33. (Previously amended) The process according to Claim 32 wherein said tin salt of an organic compound comprises dibutyl tin mercaptide.
34. (Previously amended) The process according to Claim 14, wherein said compounds containing at least two reactive hydrogen atoms comprise one or more compounds selected from the group consisting: polyols, polyether polyols, polyester polyols, polythioether polyols, polyester amides, polyether polyamines, polyacetals containing hydroxyl groups, aliphatic polycarbonates containing hydroxyl groups and water.
35. (Previously amended) The process according to Claim 21, wherein said metal salt of organic compounds comprises a tin salt of an organic compound.
36. (Previously amended) The process according to Claim 35 wherein said tin salt of an organic compound comprises dibutyl tin mercaptide.